

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 were originally presented for examination. In a Restriction Requirement by the Examiner, made telephonically, the claims were restricted into two groups, the first being to those claims covering a trapezoidal base, and the second being to those claims having a bottom with parallel sides. The undersigned elected group I, without traverse. Applicant confirms that election without traverse. Further, applicant agrees with the Examiner's selection of claims that were examined.

In the Office Action of May 16, 2003, claims 1 through 10 were examined, and claims 11 through 20 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims stand objected to, rejected under 35 USC 102(b) and 35 USC 103(a).

The objections have been overcome by the above amendments.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Zibell. The Zibell reference is appropriate for original claim 1, but, contrary to the Examiner's interpretation of Zibell, this reference does not teach a trapezoidal shaped bottom as set forth in original claim 2, and as now set forth in new claim 21. There are two separate reasons why Zibell is no longer appropriate to be cited against new claim 21. First, the section of the figure copied by the Examiner in the Office Action and marked as A-9 is not a trapezoid, nor does it have a trapezoidal shape. It is an irregular pentagon or hexagon. It clearly has five sides plus its top connection. Second, the section marked as A-9 is not even a bottom. It is located between the top and the bottom, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the distance down from the top. This can be seen in both Figures 9 and 11 of Zibell. Third, the Zibell component relied upon by the Examiner does not even have a

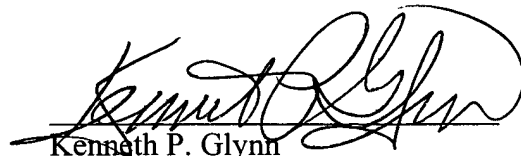
flat bottom, as the bottom is tapered upwardly from the center of the bottom (like an inverted pentagonal house!).

For all of these reasons, it is urged that the newly presented claims 21 through 28 are all directed to trapezoidal shapes, and should be allowed. An early and favorable response is, therefore, earnestly requested.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

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